

Pappas Telecasting Companies' "donation" of \$325,000 in airtime to Republican candidates in certain areas is yet another example of a powerful media group abusing its privileged access to the public airwaves. If this wasn't abuse on their part, then they would have donated equally to both parties, and not just one.

Localism is not served when a corporate headquarters decides to provide one side in local elections a louder voice than others. During election season, local audiences should be offered genuine debates -- not disingenuous offers to "purchase" an equal amount of response time.

Pappas uses the public airwaves free of charge and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. Pappas' actions are legally questionable and cast doubt on whether Pappas truly intends to serve the public interest. (donate to both next time.) Their actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. Further, they show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than just a returned postcard.

If the employees of Pappas have hearts, and if they are still beating, they need to think about this and refrain from adding into this continued non-sense. Do the right thing and let us Americans inform ourselves of the issues at hand. Isn't that what our for-fathers wanted us to do? The media, especially around election times, should educate the facts and not opinions.

At least with Fahrenheit 9/11, I CHOSE to pay when I saw it. Pappas, on the other hand, didn't pay my satellite bill the last time I checked.

Now is the time for change.

Thank you.